

Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., November 16, 1833, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

Washington, November 16, 1833.

My son, Inclosed you will recieve Mr. Tolands receipt to Mr. Brown for the chest and Tools laid in for you by your friend Mr. Hart, and Mr. Browns receipt for a check for \$62.3/100 drew by me in his favor for that sum, being in full for that bill. you will find the chest (from the price charged a nice peace of furniture for the parlour) not well suited to a negroes work shop, and the tools very fine, such I suppose, as Cabinet makers use. be this as it may, bought wit is the best when not bought too dear, and I could not permit either your feelings, or character, to suffer for the amount of the bill, but I trust that it will hereafter admonish you to purchase your own Tools for the farm and not entrust it to an agent. remember my advice my son, never purchase any useless article, those that are needful for your comfort or that of your dear little family purchase always as far as you have the means, and be always certain, if you wish to die independent, to keep your wants within your means, always when you have the money, paying for them when bought. I have said before and now repeat—the world is not to be trusted. Many think you rich, and many you will find under false pretentions of friendship would involve you, if they can, strip you of your last shilling, and afterwards laugh at your folly, and distress. Real charity always (when you have the means) relieve it, and providence will smile upon the act, provided it is done in the way pointed out by our saviour in his sermon on the mount which I beg you to read—you will find it recorded in the fifth and sixth chapter of Mathew. . . .